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Message Text

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44
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 MED-02 IO-10 FEAE-00 INT-05 EB-07

COME-00 OES-03 /096 W
---------- 045476
R 270910Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7118
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, KE, TZ, ZA
SUBJECT: TANZANIA TAKES TOUGH STAND IN BURGEONING DISPUTE
WITH KENYA

REF: A) NAIROBI 10624 (NOTAL); AND B) DAR ES SALAAM 4117

1. SUMMARY. IN LENGTHY STATEMENT RELEASED CHRISTMAS EVE, TANGOV DENOUNCED KENYAN CLOSING OF FRONTIER BUT SAID IT WOULD MAINTAIN 18.75 TON LIMIT (A NEW, AND WE HOPE DEFINITIVE, FIGURE) ON TRUCKS USING SPECIFIED NORTHERN TANZANIAN ROADS, AND WENT ON TO REFUTE KENYAN ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING TANZANIAN EXPULSIONS OF KENYAN CITIZENS AND SUPPOSED TANZANIAN INTENT TO DISMANTLE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY. END SUMMARY.

2. STATEMENT SAYS TANZANIANS WOKE UP DECEMBER 18 TO FIND ROAD, RAIL, AND MARINE TRAFFIC WITH KENYA INTERRUPTED, WITH ONLY NAMANGA ROAD REMAINING OPEN, WHILE LAKE TRAFFIC BETWEEN MY
NZA AND KISUMU REMAINS SUSPENDED DESPITE END OF CHOLERA
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EMERGENCY. TANGOV IMMEDIATELY SOUGHT TO CONTACT EAST

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AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND KENYAN OFFICIALS, AND ON DECEMBER 20
FONMIN SENT AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION WHICH REMAINS UN-
ACKNOWLEDGED. FURTHERMORE, STATEMENT ASSERTS, FALSE
ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN KENYAN PRESS TO EFFECT THAT
ROAD RESTRICTIONS WERE AIMED AT HURTING KENYA, THAT
TANZANIA NO LONGER INTERESTED IN EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
BECAUSE IT PLANNING NEW COMMUNITY WITH ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE,
AND THAT LARGE NUMBER KENYANS HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM
TANZANIA.

3. "THERE IS EVIDENCE," STATEMENT CONTINUES, "THAT THESE
SLANDEROUS ALLEGATIONS ARE ALREADY BEING USED BY SOME KENYA
AUTHORITIES, BOTH IN THE GOVERNMENT AND IN KANU NOT ONLY TO
INSTIGATE SO-CALLED REPRISALS AGAINST TANZANIA, BUT TO
INCITE THE KENYAN PUBLIC AGAINST TANZANIA AND TANZANIAN
NATIONALS RESIDING IN KENYA." STATEMENT THEN CITES RECENT
WELL-PUBLICIZED STATEMENTS BY KENYAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AND
KANU OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS REPORTED EXPULSION FROM KENYA OF
A TANZANIAN OFFICIAL OF MOMBASA HARBOURS COMMISSION.

4. REVIEWING ROAD DISPUTE, STATEMENT ASSERTS THAT (1) INTEN-
TION TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS WAS AFQOUNCED TWO YEARS AGO,
(2) RESTRICTIONS APPLY IMPARTIALLY TO TRUCKS OF ALL COUNTRIES,
INCLUDING TANZANIA, AND (3) 18.75 TON LIMIT IS BASED ON ROADS'
CARRYING CAPACITY AND THIS LIMIT HAD ONLY BEEN RELAXED IN
FIRST PLACE TO HELP ZAMBIA THROUGH AN EMERGENCY WHICH NO
LONGER EXISTS. STATEMENT NOTES THAT ROADS ARE STILL
OPEN TO TRAFFIC UNDER 18.75 TONS, AND THAT ALTERNATIVE
RAIL-HIGHWAY AND MARINE-HIGHWAY ROUTES HAD BEEN PROPOSED
TO KENYA AT DECEMBER 12 MEETING OF MINISTERS OF TWO
COUNTIRES. BEGINNING TWO YEARS AGO ALL TRANSPORTERS
EXCEPT FOR KENYAN TRUCKING COMPANY KENATCO BEGAN TO READJUST THEIR
PRACTICES IN ORDER COMPLY WITH PLANNED 18.75 TON
RESTRICTION.

5. TURNING TO OTHER KENYAN ALLEGATIONS, STATEMENT
DENOUNCES AS ABSURD CHARGES THAT TANZANIA HAD EXPELLED
UP TO 10,000 KENYANS, WHICH CHARGES "ARE BEING USED AS
A PRETEXT TO EXPEL TANZANIANS FROM KENYA." KENYANS WHO
CHOSE TO LEAVE TANZANIA VOLUNTARILY RATHER THAN JOIN
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UJAMAA VIALLAGES CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS EXPELLED. IDEA
THAT TANZANIA WISHES TO BREAK UP EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
MUST BE TREATED WITH CONTEMPT: "TANZANIA WSEL CONTINUE TO
WORK FOR NOT ONLY THE STRENGTHENING BUT ALSO THE ULTIMATE
EXPANSION OF THE COMMUNITY." CONCLUDING, STATEMENT PLEDGES
CONTINUANCE OF TANZANIA'S GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY IN THE BELIEF
THAT THIS IS THE DESIRE OF ALL EAST AFRICANS WHO BELIEVE IN
EAST AFRICAN UNITY.

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6. EDITORIALS IN TANZANIA'S TWO QUASI-OFFICIAL DAILIES, DECEMBER 25 AND 26, REFLECTED TANGOV'S TOUGH STAND, WITH THOSE OF 26TH FOCUSING IN AT KENATCO AS VILLAIN OF THE PIECE. KENATCO IS DESCRIBED AS FAKE COOPERATIVE WHICH IS REALLY TOOL OF ITS RICK OWNERS TO BILK PUBLIC AND, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WRECK EAST AFRICAN RAILWAYS (EAR) BY INTRIGUING TO CAPTURE THEIR MOST LUCRATIVE FREIGHT TRAFFIC. WHILE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY NEWS IS VAGUE REGARDING KENATCO'S OWNERS, SWAHILI-LANGUAGE UHURU SAYS THAT NOBODY IN KENYA DARES TELL TRUTH ABOUT KENATCO BECAUSE "IT IS THE RULERS (WAKUU) OF THE KENYA GOVERNMENT WHO ARE THE RULERS OF KENATCO." THERE ARE NO DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN KENYANS AND TANZANIANS, UHURU CONTINUES, AND THE ONLY PEOPLE HAVING DIFFICULTIES ARE "THE FEW KENYAN LEADERS WHO OWN KENATCO". IT ALL GOES TO SHOW, PHILOSO-PHIZES UHURU, "HOW BUSINESSMEN SERVE THEIR COUNTIRES WHEN THEY HAVE TAKEN OVER THEIR LEADERSHIP."

7. EFFECTS OF FRONTIER CLOSURE HAS NOT YET BEEN FELT, BUT ARE LIKELY INCLUDE MORE OR LESS SEVERE GASOLINE SHORTAGES IN NORTHERN PARTS OF COUNTRY WHICH NORMALLY RECEIVED PETROLEUM DIRECT FROM KENYA. ONE US-OWNED POL MARKETING COMPANY EXPRESSED CONCERN WHETHER PRODUCT STOCKS ARE SUFFICIENT IN NORTH AND ANTICIPATES SOME SHORTAGES WILL QUICKLY APPEAR.

8. COMMENT: ESCALATION OF DISPUTE HAS MOVED TANGOV'S POSITION FROM ONE OF RELATIVE STRENGTH TO ONE OF RELATIVE WEAKNESS, SINCE KENYA IS IN A POSITION TO DO TANZANIA MORE HARM (BY BLOCKING TRADE AND TRAFFIC, EXPELLING TANZANIANS, ETC.) THAN SHE WILL SUFFER FROM TANZANIAN ROAD RESTRICTIONS OR ANY NEW TANGOV RETALIATIONS. THE ARGUMENT IS NOW
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SUFFICIENTLY OVERHEATED TO MAKE BACKDOWN DIFFICULT FOR EITHER SIDE, THOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW EITHER SIDE CAN BENEFIT IN THEHKVANG RUN FROM ITS CONTINUANCE.
CARTER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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